

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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AF/ C - MR. SIEFKIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 078207

E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR CT FR

SUBJECT: AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE REPORT ON GISCARD'S CAR VISIT

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE ITEM IN
ENGLISH FROM PARIS AS RECEIVED HERE APRIL 23. ITEM WAS
CAPTIONED: FRENCH FINANCE MINISTER ISSUES STATEMENT IN CAR.

BEGIN TEXT: BANGUI, APRIL 23 AFP - FRANCE WILL SUPPORT
MOVES BY UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES TO HAVE THE
CAR INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF THE WORLD'S 25 POOREST NATIONS,
FRENCH FINANCE MINISTER VALERIE GISCARD D'ESTAING TOLD
AFP HERE TODAY.

SPEAKING BEFORE HE LEFT FOR PARIS TODAY AT THE END OF AN
8- DAY PRIVATE VISIT DURING WHICH HE HAD TALKS WITH
PRESIDENT FOR LIFE JEAN BEDEL BOKASSA, M. GISCARD SAID HE
AND GENERAL BOKASSA WERE AGREED ON THE VALUE OF THE NEW
BANK OF CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES. IT WAS AN IMPORTANT
FACTOR IN IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE
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CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES, PARTICULARLY THE C. A. R., M. GISCARD SAID.

M. GISCARD SAID GENERAL BOKASSA HAD EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT FRANCE' S HANDLING OF THE RECENT WORLD MONETARY CRISIS, SAYING FRANCE HAS HELPED PRESERVE THE INTERESTS OF AFRICAN STATES.

M. GISCARD ALSO DISCUSSED THE COUNTRY' S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF ACCESS TO THE COAST AND OF GOVERNMENT DEBTS IN RELSIGNS PRODUCTION QUOTAS TO EACH OF ITS MEMBERS DEPENDING ON MARKET DEMAND AND ON PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF EACH PLANT. ALSO, UNPAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING MINIMUM QUALITY STANDARDS WHICH ARE BASED ON THOSE ESTABLISHED BY THE U. S. ESSENTIAL OIL PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION.

5. DATA ON LIME OIL PRODUCTION OUTSIDE UNPAL NOT AVAILABLE. ONLY UNPAL MEMBERS AUTHORIZED PRODUCE LIME OIL AND PERMIT FROM SECRETARIAT INDUSTRY ANC COMMERCE REQUIRED FOR INSTALLATION OF PROCESSING EQUIPMENT. PERMIT ONLY ISSUED TO MEMBERS UNPAL. WE HAVE OBTAINED DATA FROM UNPAL ON THEIR SHIPMENTS (FOR WHICH CERTIFICATES ISSUED) TO ASCERTAIN MAGNITUDE ILLEGAL SHIPMENTS. UNPAL HAS ONLY GLOBAL EXPORT DATA BUT INDICATED OVER 90 PERCENT ALL LIME OIL EXPORTS TO U. S. FOLLOWING IS UNPAL EXPORT DATA AS COMPARED TO U. S. CENSUS IMPORT DATA:

YEAR	UNPAL	U. S. CENSUS
	M. T.	M. T.
1968	325	337
1969	135	133
1970	172	222
1971	218	215
1972	272	279

6. AS ABOVE DATA INDICATE THERE APPEARS TO BE NEGLIGIBLE AMOUNT ILLEGAL SHIPMENTS LIME OIL FROM MEXICO TO U. S. DATA ON AVERAGE VALUE OF U. S. LIME OIL IMPORTS FROM MEXICO SHOW A STEADY DECLINE IN RECENT YEARS WHICH COULD ACCOUNT FOR GOM CONCERN THIS PROBLEM.

7. EMBASSY HAS RESERVATIONS RE USG ATTEMPTING REGULATE MEXICAN LIME OIL CERTIFICATES AT BORDER. ABOVE DATA WOULD INDICATE THAT MEXICANS HAVE EXAGGERATED PROBLEM. WE DO NOT SEE MUCH POSSIBILITY OBTAINING TRADE OFF CONCESSIONS FROM MEXICANS IN VIEW THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 02803 260139 Z

RELUCTANCE TO DATE ON REMOVING RESTRICTIONS ON AGRICULTURAL ITEMS. ON OTHER HAND USG WOULD RUN RISK OF BEING ACCUSED INTERFERING IN

LIME OIL TRADE AND HELPING MEXICO PUSH UP PRICES BY RESTRICTING
TRADE.
DEAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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